

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 1 September 1950

SUBJECT Ex-Officers of the German Navy
Recruited for the Volkspolizei

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**PLACE
ACQUIRED**

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LETTER TO CA LEGATARY

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. In early May 1950 an ex-officer of the former German Navy who lives in the Soviet Zone of Germany received a questionnaire from Section P of the Main Administration for Training, 5-6 Kurze Strasse, Berlin-Wilhelmsruh, along with the following note :

"We have information that you seem to be interested in employment with the Volkspolizei. You are requested to fill in the enclosed questionnaire and return it to us together with your life history. Respectfully yours, Koehn".
2. When later reporting to Section P, the former naval officer was received by Chef Inspecteur Fritz Koehn who wore the rank insignia of a general of the German Armed Forces. After asking the naval officer a few personal questions, Koehn said that the Volkspolizei needed men capable of training enlisted personnel for coast defense duty, for duty against smugglers in the Baltic Sea and other missions. Koehn continued that "in order to preserve peace, one must be ready to fight".

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Koehn told the naval officer that in view of his experience he had a moral obligation to join the Volkspolizei. He added that the naval officer may receive an assignment as instructor at a school or any other assignment for which he would be qualified by his military knowledge. *

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Comment. The recruiting of former naval officers for the newly organized Marine-Bereitschaftspolizei (naval police) was mentioned in numerous press dispatches. Chefinspekteur Koehn, (fnu), wearing shoulder straps resembling those of a brigadier general of the German Army, was previously identified as chief of Personnel Section Main Administration for Training.

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